

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ESTHER  
MASH

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 27, 2002*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Esther Mash and thank her for her extraordinary contributions to the children of Mesa County and the State of Colorado. Her life-long dedication to her job as a schoolteacher and now as a volunteer at her local elementary school is matched only by the level of integrity and honesty with which she has conducted herself each and every day. The children whose lives she has touched are eternally grateful for all that she has taught them in her lifetime of public service.

At age ninety-one, Esther is the oldest volunteer in the Mesa County Retired Senior Volunteer Program. Every weekday, Esther walks to Taylor Elementary to volunteer her mornings and afternoons to tutor needy children. Known to the children as "Grandma Mash," Esther brings to the classroom the rare gift of a lifetime of experience gained as a teacher for over 20 years with District 51, located in southeast Colorado. She retired in 1975, after providing countless children with the gift of learning.

Esther continued to dedicate her efforts to children when she moved to Palisade, Colorado in 1995. There, she began to volunteer at Taylor Elementary, and continues to enjoy the respect and adulation from colleagues and children throughout the school. The school community, from the principal and teachers to the children and parents, has repeatedly expressed their gratitude for Esther's volunteer efforts. Taylor Elementary recently awarded her efforts with the title of "extraordinary volunteer."

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I bring to the attention of this body of Congress, and this nation, the life and spirit of such an

incredible woman. Throughout her life, Esther has managed to enrich and improve the lives of those around her. She continues to dedicate her time and energy to bring the gift of learning to children throughout the community. Esther Mash is truly an inspiration to all of us and I am honored to recognize her passion for life and indomitable human spirit that sets an example of charity to us all.

IN HONOR OF MAYOR PATRICIA  
SIANO-GILLIGAN

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 27, 2002*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mayor Patricia Siano-Gilligan of Keansburg, New Jersey, who was honored on February 22, 2002, at the First Annual Keansburg Mayor's Ball.

Mayor Gilligan was born in Hoboken, New Jersey, and lived in Union City and Carteret before moving to Keansburg sixteen years ago.

In 1994, Mayor Gilligan was elected to the Keansburg City Council, where she served until 1998, becoming the youngest councilperson ever elected to office in the Bayshore area of New Jersey. Following her tenure as councilperson, she focused her efforts on reorganizing the Keansburg Democratic Party preparation for the General Election of 2000.

Patricia Siano-Gilligan was sworn-in as the Mayor of Keansburg in 2000, becoming the only female mayor in the Bayshore area, as well as the youngest mayor in the area. Mayor Gilligan was a founding member of "Save the Bay" Committee, which successfully stopped a proposed waste site off the coast of Keansburg.

For several years, she has been a dedicated basketball and softball coach, and is active with such veterans' organizations as the

American Legion and VFW, as well as various senior citizen organizations.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mayor Patricia Siano-Gilligan of Keansburg, New Jersey, for her many accomplishments and her dedication to public service.

HONORING DON OLSEN

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 27, 2002*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Don Olsen on the occasion of the completion of his term as President of the Eastern Madera County Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Olsen provided valuable leadership during his tenure and has an exemplary record of career and civic leadership. He served as the Chamber's President from January 1, 2001, until December 31, 2001.

Mr. Olsen has been a member of the Eastern Madera County Chamber of Commerce for five years. As President, he coordinated the effort of the organization's many officers, directors, and committee chairpersons to create an effective mechanism to organize and sponsor many successful projects that benefited the local community, the business community, and local civic organizations.

In addition to his responsibilities with the Eastern Madera County Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Olsen has been a member of the Oakhurst Sierra Sunrise Rotary for seven years, Director for the Boys and Girls Club of Oakhurst, and Senior Coach of Sierra Little League for three years.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Don Olsen for his service as President to the Eastern Madera County Chamber of Commerce. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking him for his community service and wishing him many more years of continued success.